is no proposal to remove Kurnool district from the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) from the next year. However, Anantapur district is not covered under DPAP but is covered under another programme called the Desert Development Programme (DDP). It will continue to be covered under this Programme during next year also.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

EAS under implementation in rural areas of Gujarat

1144. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the rural areas in Gujarat where Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is under implementation at present and during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(b) the mandays created under EAS in the State during the said period;

(c) whether shortcomings have come to the notice of Government in implementation of EAS in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and corrective measures being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The Employment Assurance Scheme is being implemented since October 1996 in all the rural blocks of the country including Gujarat.

(b) The mandays created under the EAS during the last three years in the State of Gujarat are given as under:

Year	Mandays (in lakhs)
1998-99	63.07
1999-2000	48.49
2000-2001	80.00

(c) and (d) Certain shortcomings in the implementation of the EAS have been pointed out in C&AG Report No. 3 of the 2000 on

Implementation of the Rural Employment Generation Programmes for the period 1992-93 to 1998-99. The State Government of Gujarat has been asked to take appropriate remedial action. However, the programme is being regularly monitored by the Department of Rural Development in accordance with the in-built monitoring mechanism, including Periodical Reports and Returns, review by Vigilance and Monitoring Committees and through the visits by Officers of the Central and State Governments and by the Area Officers of the Ministry of Rural Development.

It may however be added that the Government have launched a new Scheme namely the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) by merging the EAS & the JGSY from 25th September, 2001 to provide additional wage employment with food security and also to create need based infrastructure in the rural areas. Under the Programme, minimum 5 kgs. of foodgrains is to be provided as a part of the minimum wages.

Assistance under SGSY to rural poor of Andhra Pradesh

1145. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural poor below the poverty line in Andhra Pradesh are being provided assistance under Swamajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) to start self employment;

(b) if so, the details of activities under SGSY and number of poor benefited during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the role played by each Public Sector Bank in this regard during the said period in the State?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Swamajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is being implemented as an integrated Self Employment Programme since 1.4.1999 in rural areas of the country including Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The Scheme focuses on few select activities known as the key activities and attend to all aspects of these activities, so that, Swarozgaris can draw sustainable income from their investments. The